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### ***Pinochet Repudiates UN Vote In Attempt to Improve Standing***

President Pinochet has repudiated Chile's controversial vote for a UN resolution declaring that Zionism is a form of racism. By stating publicly that he did not approve of his mission's vote, Pinochet was making a fresh attempt to undo the damage the vote had done to his country's standing among Western nations.

Chilean support for the Arab-backed resolution had brought allegations that the vote was an effort to gain Arab support for toning down a UN statement condemning human rights practices in Chile. Although Chile's courtship of the Arabs has netted nothing so far, some of Pinochet's advisers evidently thought the UN vote would elicit Arab good will prior to Finance Minister Cava's trip to the Middle East.

The decision to abstain in the next vote on this issue will cancel out any leverage with the Arabs Chile gained by siding with them earlier.

Most Chilean diplomats, however, recognize the folly of further alienating the West in return for slender expectations of support elsewhere. Since Chile cast its vote on October 17, Chileans have been stung by press reports that the US may suspend all military aid.

Chilean Justice Minister Schweitzer has implied that Chile may be reassessing its stand on human rights investigations. He told the press in Washington that if the next OAS General Assembly were held in Santiago, the Chilean government would "allow all OAS agencies to see for themselves the human rights situation in Chile." (C)

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